PATENT

DOCKET NO.: CELL-0294 **Application No.:** 10/531,402

Preliminary Amendment - First Action Not Yet Received

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (currently amended) An *E.coli* host cell expressing a recombinant antibody characterized in that the *E.coli* host cell has been genetically modified in order to change at least one physical property of one or more *E.coli* proteins which in the wild type co purify with said recombinant antibody comprising at least one genetic alteration that results in modification of at least one physical property of at least one endogenous protein that, when unmodified, co-purifies with a recombinant antibody expressed by the host cell.
- 2. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 1 where the physical characteristic property of the *E.coli* endogenous protein that is altered modified is the isoelectric point, hydrophobicity or size.
- 3. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 2 where the physical characteristic property of the *E.coli* endogenous protein that is altered modified is the isoelectric point.
- 4. (currently amended) The host cell of elaims 1 to 3 claim 1 where the altered host modified endogenous protein is Phosphate binding protein (PhoS/PstS), Dipeptide binding protein (DppA), Maltose binding protein (MBP) or thioredoxin 1.
- 5. (currently amended) The host cell of claims 1 to 3 claim 1 where the altered host modified endogenous protein is Phosphate binding protein (PhoS/PstS).
- 6. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 4 where the isoelectric point of the host endogenous protein is altered modified by the addition of a poly-aspartic acid tag to the C-terminus.
- 7. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 5 where the isoelectric point of the Phosphate binding protein (PhoS/PstS) has been is reduced by substituting one or more lysines at residues 110, 265, 266 or 318 with glutamine or aspartic acid.

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8. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 7 where the isoelectric point of the Phosphate binding protein (PhoS/PstS) has been is reduced further by the addition of a polyaspartic acid tag to the C-terminus.

- 9. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 5 where the isoelectric point of the Phosphate binding protein (PhoS/PstS) has been is reduced by substituting the lysines at residues 265 and 266 with glutamine and by the addition of a poly-aspartic acid tag to the C-terminus.
- 10. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 5 where the isoelectric point of the Phosphate binding protein (PhoS/PstS) has been is reduced by substituting the lysines at residues 110, 265 and 266 with glutamine and by the addition of a poly-aspartic acid tag to the C-terminus.
- 11. (currently amended) The host cell of claims 1 10 claim 1 where wherein the recombinant antibody is a Fab or a Fab' fragment.
- 12. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a recombinant antibody which comprises comprising fermenting a host cell according to claims 1 11 of claim 1.